GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3604
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2002
DIVERSION OF INTEREST MONEY BY DRDAS
RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the directives of the Ministry regarding the use of interest earned by District Rural Development Agency;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding diversion of interest money by DRDAs in Bihar, especially in the district of Begusarai, Lakhisarai, Shekhpura and Jamui in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard;

(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(f) the action taken/being taken by the Government against the officers who have not complied with/ are not complying with these directives;

(g) whether the Government propose to taken stern action to check the misutilisation of funds and the interest earned thereon in future; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a) : As per the Guidelines of various Schemes of the Ministry of Rural Development,the interest amounts accrued on the deposits of the Schemes are to be treated as part of the respective Programme funds and are to be utilised for the respective Schemes.

(b) to (f) : No such complaints have yet come to light.

(g) & (h): The Schemes of the Ministry are being regularly reviewed, including through Monitoring Mechanisms, such as periodical reports/returns and discussions with the State authorities. Vigilance and Monitoring Committees exist at the State, District and Block levels and a four-pronged Strategy viz. Awareness Generation, Transparency, Peoples` Participation and Social Audit by the Gram Sabha has been evolved to check cases of misutilization of funds.